

IN THE CLAIMS

1(currently amended). An electric meter box connection apparatus for connection to a dwelling having walls that include several internal elongated studs in a parallel arrangement and generally vertically arranged, the apparatus comprising:

an electric meter box having a meter base and a meter connected to the meter base;

5 a meter base bracket having a generally planar surface and a first generally rectangular side wall connected generally perpendicular to a first side of the planar surface and a second generally rectangular side wall connected to a side opposite for the first side and in a generally parallel orientation to the first rectangular side wall, one of the side walls being connected to a first one of the studs and the other of the side walls being connected to a second stud adjacent and parallel the first stud, the side walls further being directed inward the dwelling;

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wherein the meter base bracket is connected to a rear wall of the meter base.

2(original). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising one or more protrusions connected generally perpendicular to the planar surface and to the rear wall of the meter base.

3(original). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1 further comprising a feed-through conduit located on the planar surface and adapted to receive wires connected between the meter and an interior location on a dwelling.

4(original). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the side walls further include a plurality of holes adapted to receive connection devices.

5(canceled).

6(original). An electric meter box connection apparatus, comprising:

an electric meter box having a meter base and a meter connected to the meter base;

5 a meter base bracket having a generally planar surface and a first generally rectangular side wall connected generally perpendicular to a first side of the planar surface and a second generally rectangular side wall connected to a side opposite for the first side and in a generally parallel orientation to the first rectangular side wall;

10 an extension having a generally rectangular hollow housing and a planar front surface and a rear surface;

wherein the meter base bracket is connected to rear surface of the extension and wherein the front surface of the extension is connected to a rear wall of the meter base.

7(original). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 6 further comprising one or more studs located within a dwelling, the studs being oriented generally vertical and parallel to each other, and wherein the meter base bracket is connected between the studs.

8(currently amended). An electric meter box connection apparatus for connection to a dwelling having walls that include several internal elongated studs in a parallel arrangement and generally vertically arranged, the apparatus comprising:

an electric meter box having a meter base and a meter connected to the meter base;

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a meter base bracket having a lower bracket portion in a telescopic arrangement with an upper bracket portion;

wherein the meter base bracket is connected to a rear wall of the meter base.

9(currently amended). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 8 wherein each of the lower and upper brackets comprise:

two side walls that are generally oriented parallel and in opposition to each other, the first of the side walls being connected to a first stud and the second of the side walls being connected to a second stud adjacent the first stud; and

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a cross bar connected generally perpendicular to each of the side walls.

10(currently amended). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the sidewalls of the upper brackets [[and]] are in a telescopic arrangement with the sidewalls of the lower brackets.

11(currently amended). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 10 wherein the lower bracket is connected between the two adjacent studs of [[a]] the dwelling.

12(currently amended). The apparatus as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the upper bracket is moveable with respect to the studs and to the lower bracket, and is to be connected to the adjacent studs when a desired position is attained.